

REMARKS

I. Introduction

In response to the Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review dated January 19, 2007, Applicants submit this Amendment together with a Request for Continued Examination. At the time the Notice issued, claims 1-16 were pending in this application. Of those claims, claims 3 and 13-16 have been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.142(b). Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the indication that claims 2, 4-6, and 8-12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1 and 7 stand rejected.

In this Amendment, claims 2, 4-6 and 10-12 have been amended to be in independent form. Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to correct minor errors. Claims 1, 7, and 13-16 have been canceled, without prejudice, reserving right to prosecution in a continuation application. New claims 17 and 18 have been added. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Support for new claims 17 and 18 can be found in, for example, Figs. 1 and 11-13 and relevant description of the specification.

II. The Rejection of Claims 1 and 7

Claims 1 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Katta et al. Because of the cancellation of claims 1 and 7, this rejection has been rendered moot. Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

III. New claims 17 and 18

Applicants believe that Katta et al. does not disclose or teach an image switching device including all the limitations recited in new claims 17 and 18. Favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

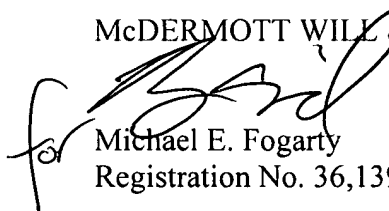
IV. Conclusion

It should, therefore, be apparent that the imposed rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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